

# International Criminal Court



# International Criminal Court

## Background of the International Criminal Court

The International Criminal Court is the first permanent criminal court established to prosecute individuals for crimes against humanity. It is an independent international organisation and although it is not part of the United Nations, both organisms work together in order to solve inter-governmental issues concerning cases which can no longer be prosecuted by national courts, or when the United Nations refers investigations to the Court. The Court started as a thought after the First World War, but it was not until after the war that the International Law Commission started considering what the International Criminal Court would be. The Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda were the ones who highlighted the urgent need of an international tribunal. The United Nations General Assembly convened a series of committees in order to organise the final details, which included the Rome Statute, the legal basis for establishing the Court. The statute was finally voted and adopted by 120 States on July 17th, 1998. The treaty only entered into force until July 1st, 2002 with the ratification of 60 States. Since then, the Court was formally established.

**Case A: The prosecution of Joseph Kony, Vincent Otti and other members of the Lord's Resistance Army for crimes against humanity and war crimes against the Government of Uganda and civilian population.**

### *Outline*

After a series of political disputes in Uganda, President Yoweri Museveni took over and has been in charge since 1986. Years later, a rebel group headed by Joseph Kony and

based on a Christian cult self-called the Lord's Resistance Army (hereinafter referred to as LRA), started attacking the Ugandan military forces and civilian populations. The LRA soon was characterised for perpetrating brutal inhumane acts against Northern-Uganda population like murder, slavery, torture, rape, forced displacement, sexual slavery, child abduction, abuse, and forced recruitment. In 2003, Museveni's government referred the LRA case to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (hereinafter referred to as ICC), who opened a formal investigation in 2004 against Joseph Kony, Vincent Otti, Okot Odhiambo, Raska Lukwiya and Dominic Ongwen. At the present time, Odhiambo and Lukwiya have deceased, Ongwen has presented his surrender to the Court and the LRA leadership members Kony and Otti are still at large.

### ***Uganda historical and political background***

Since its independence in 1962 from the United Kingdom of Great Britain, Uganda has been involved in inequality, corruption, political disputes, and internal violence, as it has long been divided by different political and ethnic groups.<sup>[1]</sup> After monarchical regimes were abolished and the country was proclaimed a republic by Uganda's first executive president Milton Obote, this last was deposed from power by dictator Idi Amin.<sup>[2]</sup> Furthermore, a series of political and military disputes led to the Ugandan Civil War between 1981 and 1986 (also known as Uganda Bush War). In this last, a former Military Commission member, Yoweri Museveni, formed the National Resistance Army (hereinafter referred to as NRA) to overthrow Obote (who had re-obtained power from Amin).<sup>[3]</sup> The rebellion succeeded and Museveni has been in power since 1986.

The last general elections, held in 2011, showed that Museveni had won, extending his 25-year mandate for the fourth time. His strongest opponent, Kizza Besigye, rejected the results, declaring Museveni's an illegitimate government.<sup>[1][4]</sup> Besigye's declarations did not go through, as the European Union Election Observation Mission and other international organisations like the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the East African Community stated that the elections had been conducted in appropriate conditions.<sup>[4][5]</sup> Despite Museveni's long-term mandate, he has increased Uganda's democratic reforms and has improved its human rights record as well as promoted economic growth.<sup>[1]</sup>

### *Lord's Resistance Army*

The LRA is an opposition group against the current government of Museveni in Uganda; it also operates in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Sudan, and the Central African Republic. Formed in 1992, based in Northern Uganda and the Sudan and led by its Commander-in-Chief **Joseph Kony**, it seeks to overthrow the Ugandan government and establish a theocratic government based on a radical form of Christianity.<sup>[6][7]</sup>

It first started as the United Holy Salvation Army and the Uganda Christian Army/Movement in 1992, having its origins in 1988 in the Holy Spirit Movement. It was formed in the Northern region of Uganda, where it still operates, mainly in the districts of Gulu, Kitgum, and Pader in the Acholiland region; most of its original members come from said region where Acholi ethnicity predominates. Along with the Acholi people, the group's influence has extended to the Sudan and South Sudan; its spread to other countries is also due to international organisations and other countries' offensives and prosecution.<sup>[8]</sup> The LRA does not show any political consistent aim other than the overthrow of Museveni and his form of government; otherwise, it promotes not only an extremist Christianity, but also a cult to its leader Kony.<sup>[9]</sup>

The LRA started acting like a guerrilla more than a conventional religious cult and first attacked civilian targets that were opposed to its ideas and alleged regime. Segments of the Acholi population of the Northern districts started supporting the LRA, giving it strength, while some others were displaced. Child abduction and forced recruitment increased as the LRA tortured and murdered opposers.<sup>[8][10]</sup> The NRA (Ugandan military force) movements against the LRA in the Acholi region led the rebel group to seek refuge in the neighbouring countries. The LRA is characterised for its brutal human rights violations against the NRA and civilian population, including murder, mutilation, torture, slavery, rape, abduction, massacres, and the use of child soldiers.<sup>[9]</sup> Their insurgent movement has received the name of Lord's Resistance Army Insurgency and has been ongoing for 29 years. From 1994 to 2002, the Sudan provided support to the LRA against the Ugandan government and South Sudanese rebels.<sup>[11]</sup> After those years, from 2002 to 2004, the LRA leadership members and commanders committed the largest amount of crimes they are accused of.

### ***Current situation of the LRA.***

In 2008, peace talks between the LRA and the Uganda government were held in Juba, South Sudan. This brought relative stability to the Northern region of the country for some time, but now crimes continue. LRA operations have spread to the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic mainly because of the recent United Nations' (hereinafter referred to as UN) mission, along with other countries' missions, including Uganda, United States of America, and South Sudan. This has diminished the rebel group's settlement in Uganda and the Sudan.[1]

The ICC has opened a prosecution against members of the LRA, despite of the group's will of being tried by Ugandan courts. Since 2008, the LRA has killed more than 2,400 people and abducted more than 3,400, according to the United States of America State Department. The UN estimates that over 380,000 people are displaced across the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and South Sudan as a result of LRA activity.[8]

The belligerent part in the conflict against the LRA is currently formed by the governments of Uganda, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic Armed Forces, and the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC). It is also supported by the United States of America, since the country signed the *LRA Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act*.<sup>[12]</sup>

### ***The International Criminal Court on the Case***

In December 2003, president Museveni referred the LRA situation to the then Prosecutor of the ICC, Luis Moreno-Ocampo. The investigation proceeded and all States members of the ICC's Rome Statute were informed of the new prosecution in order for them to cooperate with any information or provide further support.<sup>[13][14]</sup> In 2004, the case was assigned to the ICC's Pre-trial Chamber II by the Court's President Philippe Kirsch.<sup>[15]</sup> In 2005, warrants of arrest were submitted for Joseph Kony, Vincent Otti, Okot Odhiambo, Raska Lukwiya, and Dominic Ongwen for thirty-three crimes, including twenty-one war crimes and twelve crimes against humanity.<sup>[7]</sup>

According to the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*<sup>1</sup>, the accused are responsible on the basis of their individual criminal responsibility;<sup>[7]</sup> for the Article 25 (3) (b) of the Rome Statute (1998) states: “[...] a person shall be criminally responsible and liable for punishment for a crime within the jurisdiction of the Court if that person: (b) Orders, solicits or induces the commission of such a crime which in fact occurs or is attempted” (p. 17). And in case of Joseph Kony “(a) Commits such crime, whether as an individual, jointly with another or through another person, regardless of whether that other person is criminally responsible” (Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Art. 25 (3) (a), 1998, p.17).<sup>[17]</sup>

From the arrest warrants submitted in 2005, Okot Odhiambo and Raska Lukwiya’s proceedings were terminated, and so their warrants of arrest are rendered without effect.<sup>[7]</sup> This because of the confirmation of Lukwiya and Odhiambo’s death, as expressed by the Prosecutor in the *Decision to Terminate the Proceedings Against Raska Lukwiya*<sup>[18]</sup> and the *Decision terminating proceedings against Okot Odhiambo*<sup>[19]</sup>. Considering that the Court cannot exercise jurisdiction over a person who has deceased.

### ***Currently Accused***

- *Joseph Kony*

Alleged Commander-in-Chief of the LRA

Kony is criminally responsible of twelve counts of crimes against humanity: murder, enslavement, sexual enslavement, rape, inhumane acts of inflicting serious bodily injury and suffering; and twenty-one counts of war crimes: murder, cruel treatment of civilians, intentionally directing an attack against a civilian population, pillaging, inducing rape and forced

.<sup>[7]</sup><sup>[9]</sup>

- *Vincent Otti*

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<sup>1</sup> Legal basis that determines the crimes within the Court’s jurisdiction and rules of procedure.<sup>[16]</sup>

### Alleged Vice-Chairman and Second-in-Command of the LRA

Otti is criminally responsible of eleven counts of crimes against humanity: murder, sexual enslavement, inhumane acts of inflicting serious bodily injury and suffering; and twenty-one counts of war crimes: inducing rape, intentionally directing an attack against a civilian population, forced enlistment of children, cruel treatment of civilians, pillaging, and murder.<sup>[7]</sup>

In late 2007, it was said that the LRA leadership had split and that Otti had been killed by other LRA commanders. Even when Kony has admitted Otti's death, the precise circumstances remain uncertain and have not been officially confirmed; so Otti is still under the charges submitted by the Court.<sup>[20]</sup>

Crimes of which Otti and Kony are accused, are believed to have been committed between 2002 and 2004 carrying an insurgency against the Government of Uganda, the Ugandan Army, local defence units and civilian populations. Both Otti and Kony's arrest warrant's executions are pending, as the request from the Pre-Trial Chamber II to the Democratic Republic of Congo to detain and surrender Kony and Otti to the Court, has not been accomplished.<sup>[21]</sup> And even with the international support provided by the governments of Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, and the United States of America, the LRA leaders are still at large.

- *Dominic Ongwen*

### Alleged Former Brigade Commander of the Sinia Brigade of the LRA

Ongwen is criminally responsible of three counts of crimes against humanity: murder, enslavement, inhumane acts of inflicting serious bodily injury and suffering; and four counts of war crimes: murder, cruel treatment of civilians, intentionally directing an attack against a civilian population, and pillaging.<sup>[7]</sup> Such crimes were allegedly committed between 2002 and 2004 against the Uganda People's Defence Force, the local defence units and civilian populations.<sup>[22]</sup>

Ongwen is now under a Pre-trial stage in the ICC as he presented his surrender in the Central African Republic in January 2015, and was transferred to the ICC Detention Centre

in the Netherlands that month.<sup>[22][23]</sup> Ongwen's case was separated from the other accused in order to prevent delays in the pre-trial proceeding.

### ***Crimes submitted***

The leadership members and commanders of the LRA were indicated in the same case which accused them of thirty-three war crimes and crimes against humanity. All crimes, according to the corresponding warrants of arrest, revised on the Elements of Crime<sup>[24]</sup> include counts on:

- *Crimes against humanity*<sup>[24]</sup>

- Murder - Article 7 (1) (a)
- Enslavement - Article 7 (1) (c)
- Rape - Article 7 (1) (g)-1
- Sexual Slavery - Article 7 (1) (g)-2
- Other inhumane acts - Article 7 (1) (k)

Or inhumane acts of inflicting serious bodily injury and suffering.

- *War crimes*<sup>[24]</sup>

- Murder - Article 8 (2) (c) (i)-1
- Cruel Treatment - Article 8 (2) (c) (i)-3
- Attacking Civilians - Article 8 (2) (e) (i)
- Pillaging - Article 8 (2) (e) (v)
- Rape (inducing rape) - Article 8 (2) (e) (vi)
- Using, conscripting and enlisting children - Article 8 (2) (e) (vii)

### ***Recommended reading***

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**Case B: The prosecution of Charles Blé Goudé and Simone and Laurent Gbagbo for crimes against humanity as result of the post-electoral violence in Côte d'Ivoire**

***Outline***

After three decades under the government of Felix Houphouët-Boigny, with great economic growth and social development, Côte d'Ivoire entered into a series of political controversies, economic destabilisation and social discontent. After his death, Houphouët-Boigny was followed by Henri Konan Bédié, Robert Guéï, and Laurent Gbagbo. This last, stayed in charge for a decade, leading the country into an economic recession, and awakening social differences based on ethnic issues. Democratic elections were held on 2011, resulting on the election of the long-opposition party leader Alassane Ouattara. However, a democratic fraud did not recognise the elections and Gbagbo stayed in power, triggering the continuation of crimes against humanity as the country entered into a civil war. After the electoral controversy, supporting groups of Gbagbo and Ouattara confronted each other for various months. During this episode between 2010 and 2011, pro-Gbagbo forces committed a series of crimes against humanity and incited population to violence against United Nations operations.

Former president Laurent Gbagbo is accused of presiding the post-electoral violence movements and inciting population to inhuman violent acts. Among him, the Court has accused Laurent's spouse, Simone Gbagbo, and the leader of the pro-Gbagbo movement, Charles Blé Goudé. Today, two of them are under custody of the Court and accused for charges of murder, persecution, rape, and sexual violence committed in the context of the post-electoral violence; whereas Mrs. Gbagbo has already been sentenced for 20 years in the Court's detention centre.

***Côte d'Ivoire: historical and political background***

Since its independence in 1960 from France until 1993, Côte d'Ivoire had been under the government of Felix Houphouët-Boigny, having the highest growth rate in Africa and still maintaining favourable relations with France.<sup>[1]</sup> Growth was accomplished with the developing of substitution industries, improving infrastructure and agriculture, and

supporting domestic market.<sup>[2]</sup> Despite Côte d'Ivoire's economic and social development, the political aspect was not amenable for this sector of the country, limiting the distribution of power to a single party.

It was until 1990 that general elections were held, though resulting in the Houphouët-Boigny's government continuity.<sup>[3]</sup> The decision of decentralising the power was a response to general discontent with the ongoing regime because of the recently deteriorated economy. Moreover, Alassane Ouattara, a popular political character, was named Prime Minister, which stabilised social and political disturbance.<sup>[4]</sup>

After Houphouët-Boigny's death three years later, his constitutional successor, Henri Konan Bédié, became president, facing difficulties with the economy decline and opposition parties.<sup>[3][4]</sup> However, Bédié still won general elections in 1995. During his mandate, he promoted the concept of *ivoirité*, which refers to specific characteristics like ethnicity and birthplace that define the Ivorian nationality. This was an effort to weaken Ouattara's great influence in the social and political sectors; nevertheless, it resulted in ethnic conflicts and general discontent with the alleged elitist ideas of the president.<sup>[4]</sup> This led to the 1999 military *coup* against Bédié, putting General Robert Guéi as president.

In 2000, general elections were held once more, resulting in Laurent Gbagbo's election for the *Front Populaire Ivoirien* (FPI), which had protested in the past as an opposition party against Houphouët-Boigny.<sup>[3]</sup>

### ***The Ivorian Civil Wars***

The first Ivorian civil war quickly developed in 2002, due to social discontent with Gbagbo's discriminatory politics which gave continuity to Bédié's intentions of putting Ouattara aside (because of his Burkinabé origins). Furthermore, Gbagbo began to consolidate power to his own ethnic group. It was mainly the ethnic and regional controversy which first detonated violence between population groups. Particularly, northern-Muslims against southern-Christians confrontations took the lead in a series of skirmishes and social division of the country.<sup>[5]</sup> By 2004, violence had strongly decreased due to the intervention of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and French military. Despite

international efforts, sporadic violence continued until 2007, when a peace treaty between Gbagbo and his main opposition parties was signed.

After ten years of Gbagbo's government, general elections finally took place in 2010 with Ouattara running against Gbagbo, who had already extended his mandate many times.<sup>[5]</sup> The Independent Electoral Commission released the results, pointing Ouattara as the winner with more than 350,000 votes, representing the 54% of the total.<sup>[6]</sup> Despite the clear defeat of Gbagbo, he claimed irregularities in the election procedures and results were altered to cut Ouattara's votes to 49%. The government of the United States of America, the European Union, the Economic Community of the West African States (hereinafter referred to as ECOWAS), and the United Nations rejected Gbagbo's electoral results and claimed the presidency of Ouattara.<sup>[5][7]</sup>

### ***Post-electoral violence***

Gbagbo's allegedly altered results led to a series of violent clashes between Ouattara's and Gbagbo's supporters. The crimes perpetrated from 2010 to 2011 were referred to as the Second Ivorian Civil War; however, due to its characteristics, it is considered as a continuity to the violence movements in the early 2000s. Violence continued for five months in which at least 3,000 people were killed and 150 women were raped.<sup>[8]</sup>

Even though it has been alleged that crimes against humanity were perpetrated by both parts of the conflict: Ouattara and Gbagbo sympathisers, evidence has only pointed Gbagbo responsible. As reported by the Human Rights Watch: "*The three-month campaign of organized violence by security forces under the control of Laurent Gbagbo and militias that support him gives every indication of amounting to crimes against humanity*" (Human Rights Watch, 2011).<sup>[9]</sup> Also, abuses against Ouattara supporters from Gbagbo forces were identified in the first months of 2011. Another proof of Gbagbo's implication in post-electoral violence were the frequent incitements to violence against the international intervention missions -such as United Nations'- through the official television station. Witnesses and victims have also pointed that acts of violence were committed by organisations related to Gbagbo such as the Republic Guard and the *Centre de*

*commandement des opérations de sécurité (CECOS),*<sup>[9]</sup> both related to Charles Blé Goudé, the leader of the pro-Gbagbo youth militia.<sup>[5]</sup>

In the months following the electoral controversy, armed combatants committed war crimes, including executions, destruction of property, rape, and targeting of civilians. Crimes were not only committed under the excuse of electoral fraud, but also on ethnic conflicts, which extend to religious, linguistic, and political divisions, making Côte d'Ivoire one of Africa's most ethnically divided countries.<sup>[10]</sup>

According to what announced by the Human Rights Watch,<sup>[9]</sup> Gbagbo and Blé Goudé are responsible for encouraging violence, as they and other military leaders have refused to stop or denounce the abuses of their forces on civilian population. And according to what established by the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*, Art. 25, 3, (a): a person can be accused either by commit a crime as an individual or through another person. By supporting the systematic violence in his territory and by leading the main aggressor group in the conflict, Gbagbo is criminally responsible of all crimes committed under his concern or knowledge.

### ***Current situation in Côte d'Ivoire***

By now, the conflict in Côte d'Ivoire has ceased; however, ethnic confrontations still have place in some regions of the country. The called Second Ivorian Civil War came to an end in 2011, with United Nations Security Council resolution 1975 (2011)<sup>[12]</sup> which demanded Gbagbo to step out of power, and recognised Ouattara as President of Côte d'Ivoire, having the support of ECOWAS, the African Union and the international community. The resolution of the United Nations Security Council reiterated Gbagbo's conditions which included him in the criteria of the Sanctions List of Côte d'Ivoire released on the council's resolution 1572 (2004).<sup>[13]</sup>

Alassane Ouattara has been in power since 2010, being re-elected in 2015 for another five-year term. As a result of the violence in the region, according to United Nations, more than 100,000 people have been displaced to the neighbouring country Liberia. This, as a result of the presence of Liberian mercenaries who contributed to Gbagbo's objectives and that also set a refugee flow between both countries.<sup>[14]</sup> Also, the United Nations documented



an approximately of 400 civilian deaths -most of them allegedly committed by pro-Gbagbo forces.[9]

### ***The International Criminal Court on the Case***

On 2011, the Pre-Trial Chamber III of the International Criminal Court opened the investigation against Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé, according to Article 15 of the *Rome Statute*.<sup>[15][16]</sup> This, based on the Court's jurisdiction in Côte d'Ivoire, as declared by the nation itself in 2003 by accepting the terms of the *Rome Statute*.<sup>[17]</sup> Also, with its jurisdiction reaffirmed in 2010 by Ouattara as new president of Côte d'Ivoire.<sup>[18]</sup>

Even though, the warrant of arrest was emitted on 2011, the charges were confirmed until 12 June 2014, for Laurent Gbagbo and 11 December 2014, for Charles Blé Goudé. The trial was programmed on 15 March 2015, and it changed its date to November of the same year.<sup>[19]</sup>

The International Criminal Court has gathered enough evidence to accuse Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé; both are under custody of the Court and in trial process, despite their refusal of all charges so far.<sup>[15]</sup> Mr. Gbagbo's spouse, Simone Gbagbo, was also accused for contributing with pro-Gbagbo forces, abuse of power and as co-perpetrator of various crimes against humanity. However, on 2015, Mrs. Gbagbo's trial process concluded with a unanimous 20-year sentence for undermining state security and for disturbing the public order in the 2010 post-electoral violence.<sup>[19][20][21]</sup>

### ***Currently Accused***

- *Laurent Gbagbo*

Ivorian national and former president of Côte d'Ivoire.

Mr. Gbagbo is criminally responsible for individual crimes against humanity in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in the context of the post-electoral violence. Charged on crimes against humanity such as murder, rape, attempted murder, and persecution.<sup>[22]</sup>

- *Charles Blé Goudé*

Alleged leader of the pro-Gbagbo youth militia.

Mr. Blé Goudé is criminally responsible for individual crimes against humanity in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in the context of the post-electoral violence. Charged on crimes against humanity such as murder, rape, attempted murder, and persecution.<sup>[22]</sup>

### ***Crimes submitted***

Accused, Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé, are indicated in the same case with four counts of crimes against humanity. All crimes, according to the corresponding warrants of arrest, revised on the Elements of Crime<sup>[24]</sup> include counts on:

#### *Crimes against humanity*<sup>[24]</sup>

- Murder - Article 7 (1) (a)
- Rape - Article 7 (1) (g)-1
- Persecution - Article 7 (1) (h)
- Other inhumane acts - Article 7 (1) (k)

Or inhumane acts of inflicting serious bodily injury and suffering.

### ***Recommended reading***

-Human Rights Watch. "The Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé trial". *Human Rights Watch*. 25 Jan 2016. Web. 15 Mar 2016. <<https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/01/25/laurent-gbagbo-and-charles-ble-goude-trial>>

-Human Rights Watch. "Côte d'Ivoire: Crimes Against Humanity by Gbagbo Forces". *Human Rights Watch*. 15 Mar 2011. Web. 15 Mar 2016. <<https://www.hrw.org/news/2011/03/15/cote-divoire-crimes-against-humanity-gbagbo-forces>>

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- 12.** United Nations Press. “Security Council Demands End to Violence in Cote d’Ivoire, Imposing Sanctions against Former President and Urging Him to ‘Step Aside’, in Resolution 1975”. *United Nations*. 30 mar 2011. Web. 15 Mar 2016. <<http://www.un.org/press/en/2011/sc10215.doc.htm>>
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## Glossary

### A

1. **abduction**. The action or an instance of forcibly taking someone away against their will.

2. **Acholi ethnicity**. A catholic ethnic minority in Uganda which represents 4% of the total population of the country.

3. **arrest warrant.** An order of the judge telling the police (or the respective authority) to arrest a person. The arrest warrant must be sustained by a previous investigation.

## B

4. **belligerent.** Belonging to or recognised as a state at war and protected by and subject to the laws of war.

5. **Blé Goudé, Charles.** is an Ivorian political leader, born at Guibéroua, in the centre west of the country. He later founded the Coordination des Jeunes Patriotes in 2001, and the Congrès Panafricain des Jeunes et des Patriotes (COJEP)

## C

6. **child abduction.** Is the unauthorised removal of a minor from the custody of the child's natural parents or legally appointed tutors.

7. **civil war.** A war between political factions or regions within the same country.

8. **coup.** A sudden and decisive action in politics, especially one resulting in a change of government illegally or by force.

9. **crimes against humanity.** A deliberate act, typically as part of a systematic

campaign, that causes human suffering or death on a large scale

10. **cruel treatment.** Any physical or psychological attack towards a person. A threat towards the integrity of a person.

## D

11. **democratic fraud.** When during a democratic election, the winner does not come to power through a transparent and honest way.

12. **destabilisation.** To undermine the power of a government or leader by subversive or terrorist acts.

## E

13. **economic recession.** A significant decline in activity across the economy, lasting longer than a few months. It is visible in industrial production, employment, real income and wholesale-retail trade.

14. **enslavement.** The act of making a person a slave. It is against his will and is commonly present in developing populations.

15. **ethnic groups.** Group of people who identify with each other based on common ancestral, social, cultural or national experiences.

16. **evidence.** Data presented to a court or jury in proof of the facts in issue and which

may include the testimony of witnesses, records, documents, or objects.

17. **executions.** The infliction of capital punishment or, formerly, of any legal punishment.

## F

18. **forced displacement.** The situation of persons who are forced to leave or flee their homes due to conflict, violence and human rights violations.

19. **forced recruitment.** To enlist people in the militia of their country or group against the will of the person.

## G

20. **Gbagbo, Laurent.** Was the President of Côte d'Ivoire from 2000 until his arrest in April 2011. A historian, chemist and physicist, Gbagbo was imprisoned in the early 1970s and again in the early 1990s, and he lived in exile in France during much of the 1980s as a result of his union activism.

21. **Gbagbo, Simone.** is an Ivorian politician. She is the President of the Parliamentary Group of the Ivorian Popular Front (FPI) and is a Vice-President of the FPI. As the wife of Laurent Gbagbo, the President of Côte d'Ivoire from 2000 to 2011, she was also First Lady of Ivory Coast prior to their arrest by pro-Quattara forces.

22. **genocide.** Total or partial destruction of a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group.

23. **guerrilla.** A type of militia in which there is no official army, and in which any person can participate.

## H

24. **Houphouët-Boigny, Felix.** Was the first President of Côte d'Ivoire. A tribal chief, he worked as a medical aide, union leader, and planter before being elected to the French Parliament. He served in several ministerial positions within the French government before leading Côte d'Ivoire following independence in 1960. Throughout his life, he played a significant role in politics and the decolonization of Africa.

## I

25. **illegitimate.** Not authorised by the law; not in accordance with accepted standards or rules.

26. **inhuman.** Lacking human qualities of compassion and mercy; cruel and barbaric.

27. **insurgency.** A rebel or revolutionary

## J

28. **jurisdiction.** The right, power or authority to administer justice by hearing and determining controversies.

## K

29. **Kony, Joseph.** Ugandan rebel who led the Lord's Resistance Army(LRA), a militia that terrorized northern Uganda and neighbouring countries in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

## L

30. **LRA.** It is referred to the Christian cult-self called Lord's Resistance Army leaded headed by Joseph Kony, they started attacking the Ugandan military forces and civilian populations

## M

31. **massacres.** The violent killing of many people.

32. **monarchy.** Form of government in which sovereignty is actually or nominally embodied in one individual reigning until death or abdication.

33. **Museveni, Yoweri.** Is a Ugandan politician who has been President of Uganda since 29 January 1986. Museveni was involved in rebellions that toppled Ugandan leaders Idi Amin and Milton Obote.

## O

34. **Ongwen, Dominic.** Is the ex-commander of the Sinia Brigade of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Ongwen was a member of the "Control Altar" of the LRA that directs military strategy. Ongwen

was abducted by the LRA at the age of ten as he walked to school, and subsequently indoctrinated as an LRA fighter.

35. **Otti, Vincent.** was deputy-leader of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). He was one of the five persons for whom the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued its first arrest warrants on 8 July 2005.

36. **Ouattara, Alassane.** Is an Ivoirian politician who has been President of Côte d'Ivoire since 2011. An economist by profession, Ouattara worked for the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He was the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire from November 1990 to December 1993, Ouattara became the President of the Rally of the Republicans (RDR)

## P

37. **persecution.** A program, campaign or act of exterminating, driving away or subjugating people based on their religious, ethnic, social, or racial group.

38. **pillage.** Assault (a place) using violence, especially in wartime.

39. **prosecution.** The act or process of holding a trial against a person who is accused of a crime, in order to deliberate if that person is guilty.

## R

40. **rape.** Unlawful sexual activity and usually sexual intercourse carried out



forcibly or under threat of injury against a person who is beneath a certain age or incapable of valid consent.

41. **rebellion.** An effort by many people to change the government or leader of a country by the use of protest or violence.

## S

42. **sexual violence.** Verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that affects an individual's work or school performance. Any sexual assault refers to sexual contact or behavior that occurs without explicit consent.

43. **skirmishes.** A minor battle in war, as one between small forces or between large forces avoiding direct conflict.

## T

44. **targeting of civilians.** Selecting any civilian group in a population and murder them in front of the rest of the population or criminal group.

45. **theocratic.** Government by divine guidance or by officials who are regarded as divinely guided

46. **torture.** The act of causing severe physical pain as a form of punishment or as a way to force someone to do or say something.

47. **trial.** It is a coming together of parties to a dispute, to present information in a

tribunal; a formal setting with the authority to adjudicate claims or disputes.

## W

48. **war crimes.** An action carried out during the conduct of a war that violates accepted international rules of war.